

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1224
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2002
RISE IN BOOK PIRACY
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an alarming rise in book piracy in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and total books in terms of rupees seized by Government during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government have chalked out any plan to curb piracy in regard to books;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether this trend of books piracy is likely to affect the availability of world class literacy material in India; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c), (d), (e) & (f) Chapter XIII of Copyright Act, 1957, provides penalties for the offences committed under the Copyright Act and empowers the police to take necessary action. The actual enforcement of the law is the concern of the state governments through police force. However, during the last few years, the central government has taken various steps to improve the enforcement of the Copyright Act to curb piracy. These measures include the setting up of a Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council (CEAC), which has as its members from all concerned departments and representatives of industry with a view to regularly review the implementation of the Copyright Act including the provisions regarding anti- piracy. Several other measures taken by the Central Government also include persuading the State Government for (i) the setting up of Special Cells in State Governments for enforcement of Copyright Laws (ii) appointment of nodal officers in the States for facilitating proper coordination between the industry organizations and enforcement agencies; (iii) holding of seminar/workshops etc. for sensitising the public about Copyright Laws.